

With best regards,
Sincerely,

LEE H. HAMILTON,
Ranking Democratic Member.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, DC, January 30, 1997.

DEAR MR. HAMILTON: Thank your for your letter of November 20 in which you commented on the U.S.-Indonesia relationship.

We appreciate your thoughtful comments. We share your concerns, both about human rights violations in Indonesia and the continued tension in East Timor, and the problems these issues could pose as we work to preserve Congressional support for a relationship that has contributed so much to the stability of the Southeast Asia region and has proven so beneficial to U.S. security and economic interests.

Indonesia is entering a protracted period of political transition that will determine the country's future in the post-Soeharto period. The widespread arrests of political dissidents that occurred in the aftermath of the July 27 riots in Jakarta are particularly troubling. Although it is the Indonesian people and government who ultimately will shape their nation's future, we believe we can and should help encourage the development of civil society in Indonesia. To this end, we have worked to promote a greater respect for human rights and democratic principles of governance.

We concur with your view that we must ensure as well that the Indonesian Government understands that sound U.S.-Indonesia relations depend on improvements in the human rights situation and progress toward resolution of the East Timor question. Secretary Albright, Acting Assistant Secretary Kartman, and Ambassador Roy have and will continue to underscore at every opportunity that our bilateral relationship is important but cannot reach its full potential until Indonesia's human rights performance improves.

With regard to East Timor, we strongly support the ongoing UN-sponsored talks between Indonesia and Portugal and the introductory Timorese discussions. We have consistently urged the Indonesian Government to implement tension reduction measures and will continue to do so, drawing on the excellent advice include in your letter. These initiatives as well as a growing realization that the world is watching seem to have had a positive effect in East Timor, as the Indonesian authorities recently have maintained considerable restraint in the face of large demonstrations in support of Bishop Belo.

Recently, the Indonesian military has taken steps to try to correct its human rights shortcomings. Abuses by troops, for example, have been followed up by courts martial and in some cases by prison sentences. Furthermore, in some instances the military honor boards have been headed by graduates of U.S. International Military Education and Training (IMET) programs. These same officers also have helped incorporate human rights materials in Indonesian military training courses and, in the province Irian Jaya, have been responsible for issuing new rules of engagement manuals that include human rights principles.

Your suggestion that we should continue to pay special attention to informing Members of Congress of the benefits the U.S. derives from our relationship with Indonesia is well-taken. In this regard, we have and will continue to press the Indonesian government to authorize Congressional travel to East Timor so that members can assess first-hand the human rights situation and economic development there.

Although the Administration is strongly committed to advancing the cause of human

rights in Indonesia, we must also craft our initiatives in a balanced manner that preserves and promotes the cooperative relationship from which both countries derive important benefits. To accomplish this and to enhance our limited influence on internal developments in Indonesia, we will have to approach the Indonesian first as a friend—a nation which recognizes their contributions and can, therefore, speak frankly about what further progress is needed to allow the relationship to reach its full potential.

We greatly value your counsel on the challenges we face and look forward to working with you to pursue a course that advances the full range of interests that characterize our bilateral relationship with Indonesia.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

BARBARA LARKIN,
Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs.

TRIBUTE TO WILLA J. HAWKINS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 1997

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to rise before you today to pay tribute to an individual who exemplifies the very best in civic pride and responsibility, and who has shown how gifted a woman she is by her actions and spirit. On Saturday, February 15, 1997, a luncheon will be held to honor Willa Junior Hawkins for her distinguished service to the citizens of Flint, MI, in her roles as educator, administrator, activist, and community leader.

Willa Hawkins, a resident of Flint, MI since the age of 6, graduated from Northern High School, and received degrees from Michigan State University and Eastern Michigan University in the field of education. She took those degrees and put them to use as a teacher in the Flint Public School system for 15 years, and as a principal for 17 years.

In addition to helping cultivate our most precious natural resource, our Nation's children, Mrs. Hawkins developed an interest in politics, beginning in the 1960's with her participation in the civil rights march in Washington, DC. She continued her involvement by working on various campaigns, including serving as campaign manager for 12 years for County Commissioner Sylvester Broome. Upon Commissioner Broome's death in 1991, Ms. Hawkins made the transition from campaigner to candidate as she was appointed commissioner and was later elected to the position, holding it until December 21, 1996.

Because of Ms. Hawkins' stellar reputation as a writer, planner, and organizer, she has served on numerous Genesee County boards including Community Mental Health, Community Action Agency, and Parks and Recreation Commission. She has also served with the Valley Area Agency on Aging, New Paths, Food Bank of Eastern Michigan, and Transition House board of directors.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a tremendous amount of pride that I appear before you today to recognize my colleague, my constituent, and my friend, Willa J. Hawkins. In the time I have known her, she has been a person who cannot help but make a lasting impact on everyone she comes in contact with. I ask you, Mr.

Speaker, and my fellow members of the 105th Congress to join me in recognizing Mrs. Willa J. Hawkins.

TRIBUTE TO LOCKWOOD GREENE

HON. BOB INGLIS

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 1997

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Lockwood Greene, one of the country's largest design-build consulting firms and a fine company located in Spartanburg, SC, in my district. On February 19, Lockwood Greene will donate more than 5,000 original engineering drawings to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History so they may be preserved for all to enjoy.

The works date to the mid-1800's and provide a historical look at how America evolved as new technologies were invented. Included in the collection are drawings, depicting how power was transmitted through a factory before the introduction of electricity; drawings recording the emergence of water as a form of power; and designs for radio stations that were built shortly after World War II. Lockwood Greene has a long history of contributions to engineering, beginning with its founding in New England in 1832 and continuing today with its headquarters in South Carolina.

I commend Lockwood Greene and its chairman, Donald R. Luger, for their tremendous gift to the Smithsonian and for preserving these wonderful designs, which lend so much insight into the history of both American engineering and our cultural development. I am pleased to represent the employees of Lockwood Greene.

TRIBUTE TO JO KAPLAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 12, 1997

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Jo Kaplan, who has devoted her legal career to representing the poor, the underprivileged, and children. As both a member of the Los Angeles County Public Defenders Office and a lawyer in private practice, Jo has dedicated herself to helping those members of society who are desperately in need of help. Through her tireless efforts and selfless ways, she has made life better for so many.

Jo's husband, Larry Feldman, is a close friend of mine, and I know how proud he is of his wife's accomplishments. There is so much to tell. For example, since graduating from UCLA Law School in 1968, Jo has been a leader in getting more humane treatment for juvenile prisoners. She began by working in the public defenders office and later with then-Los Angeles County Supervisor Jim Hayes on ways to improve the lot of children held in detention. This included advocating a right to treatment for incarcerated youths, meaning the State had an obligation to try to give them ameliorative treatment while they were in custody.